

The Power of the Mars Program

University of Michigan April 5, 2017



Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

Outline



- Intro slide and my background
- Overview of Mars Exploration Program (5)
- Interaction between the projects Intro slide
 - Science, Landing sites seection, Areobraking, Landing support, Relay
- MRO is key player
 - Instrument overview
 - How these data are used in
 - Science
 - Landing site selection and safety
 - Aerobraking and landing
 - Recent results
 - ExoMars EDM
 - InSight
 - ExoMars
 - 2020 (NASA and ESA)
 - Red Dragon
- NASA 2020 three final sites
 - Show them
 - Science overview of the mission
 - Instrumentation
- Summary

February 23, 2017 Pg. 2

4 MARS SCIENCE GOALS

WATER

LIFE

Determine if life ever arose on Mars

2

HABITABLE ZONES

CLIMATE

Understand Martian climate processes and history

3

SIGNS OF LIFE

GEOLOGY

Determine how the surface and interior of Mars evolved

4

HUMANS

Prepare for human exploration

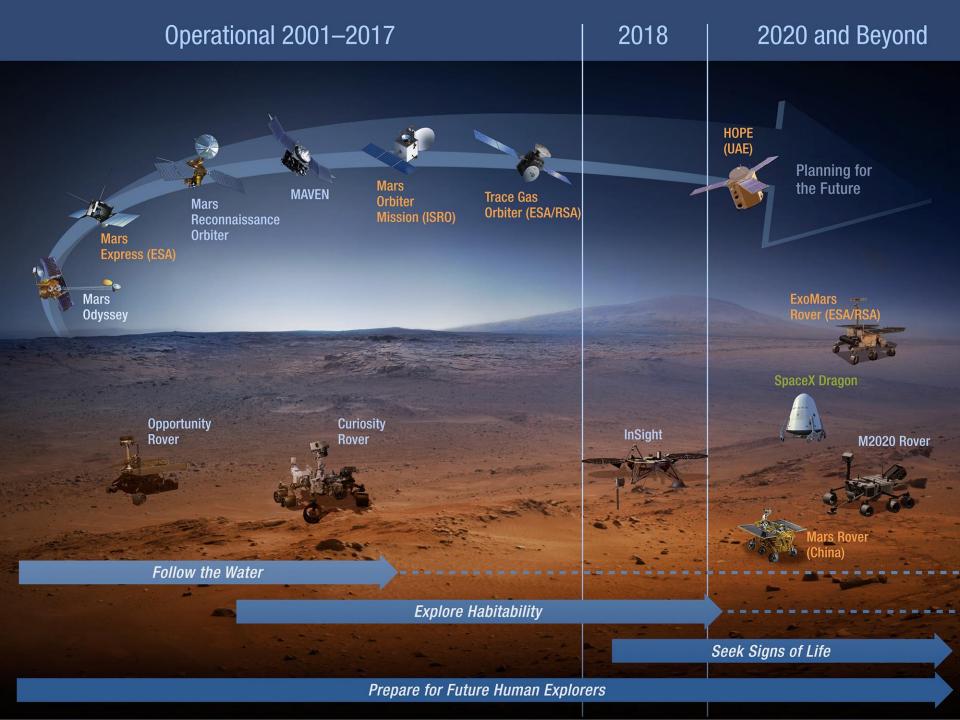






1

EVOLVING THEMES



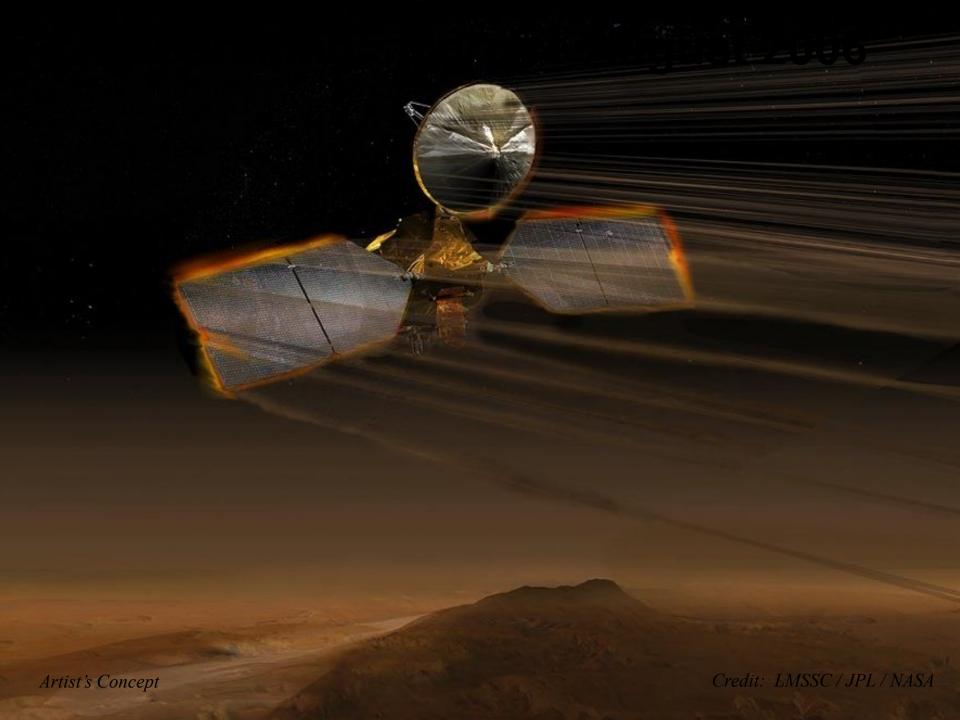
Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

Interaction between spacecraft

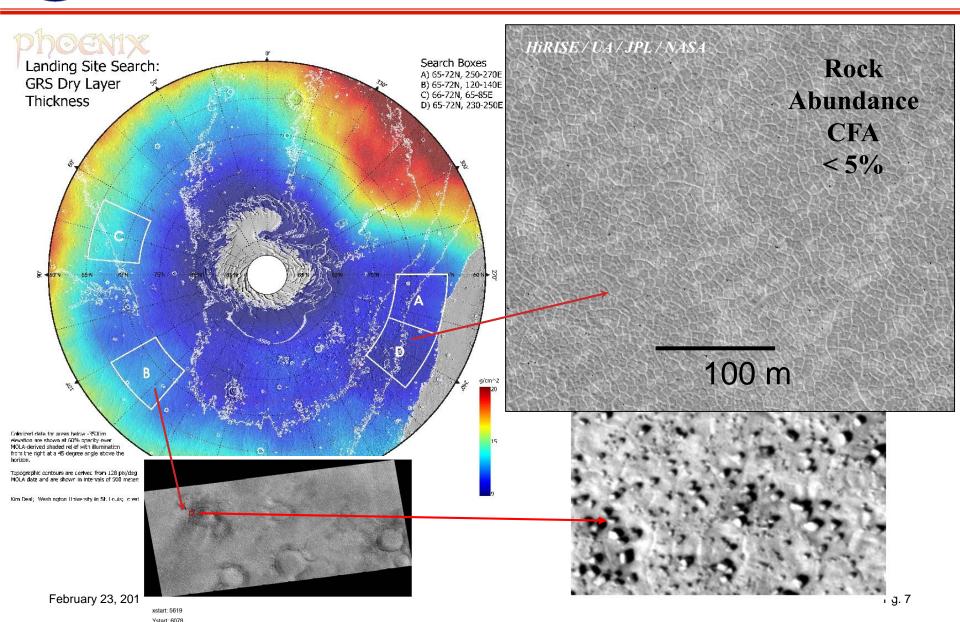


• Science, Landing sites seection, Areobraking, Landing support, Relay

February 23, 2017 Pg. 5



National Aeronautics and Space As Support of other missions: Jet Propulsion Laboratory California Institute of Technology anding site selection, characterization, certification



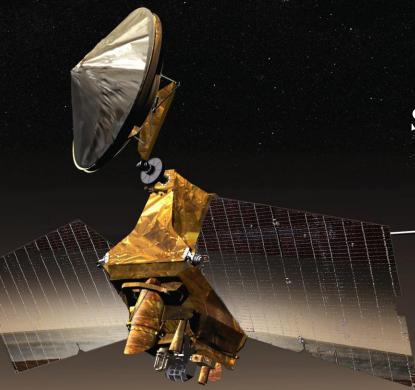
Rated "Excellent" in 2016 Planetary Mission Senior Review

11 Years in Orbit

~50,000 orbits

300 Tb of Science Data Returned

~200 kg of
Usable Fuel still
in the Tank



7 Science
Investigations
Still Returning
Data

~1000
Publications in peer-reviewed
Journals

Mars Reconnaissance
Orbiter

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Government sponsorship acknowledged.



MRO Science Investigations



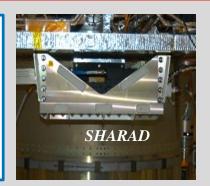


HIRISE

~49,000 images (~5000 stereo) ~2.8% of Mars RSL, Gullies, Dunes, Polar Caps

SHARAD

~21,000 Observing Strips
Buried CO₂ Ice
Polar Cap Internal
Structure
Mid-latitude Ice





CRISM

~85% msp IR
~39% hsp IR
~76% hsp VNIR
Limb Scans
Ancient Aqueous Minerals
ATO's (6-12 m/pixel)

MCS

~150 M Soundings ~94% of 5.4 MYrs Vert. Dust Profiles Dust Storm Patterns Tidal Structure CO2 snow and frost





CTX

~92,000 images ~99% of
Mars 20% in dual
coverage
Stratigraphy
New Impacts

MARCI

~47,000 images
5.4 Myrs
~3600 Daily Global Maps
Dust & Ice Clouds
Dust Storm Tracks

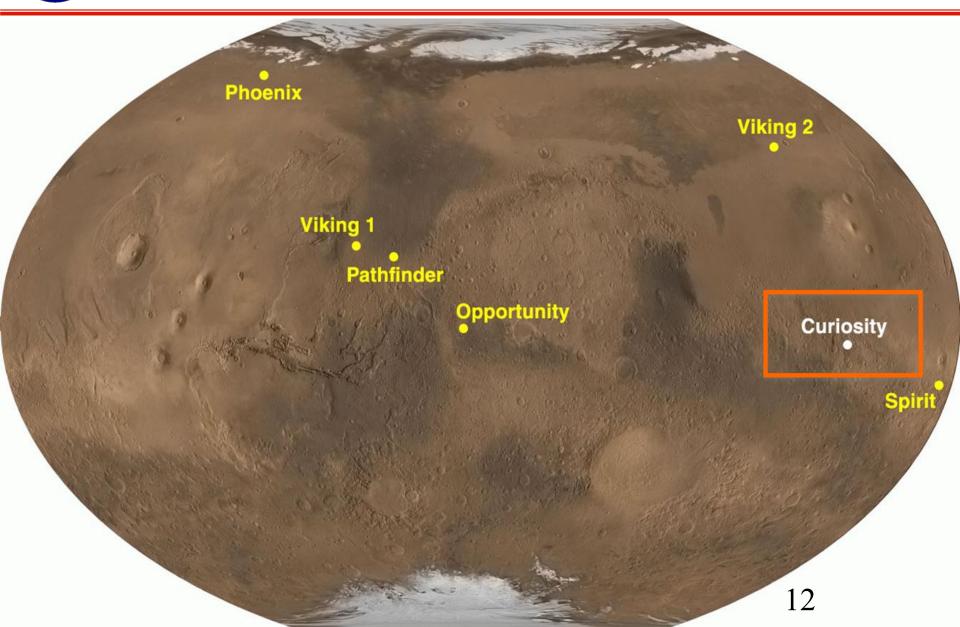


February 23, 2017 Pg. 9



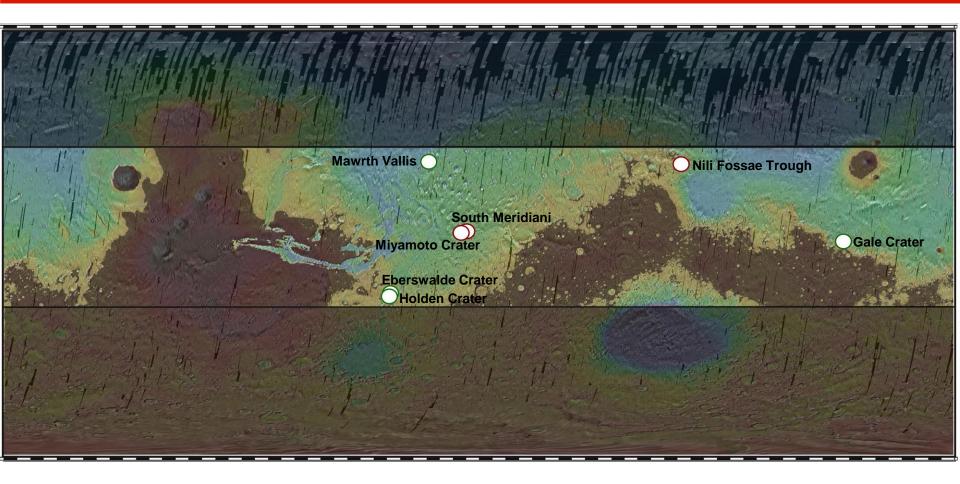
Mars Landing Sites





Seven Downselected MSL Landing Sites:





Seven Sites Receiving Highest Science Ranking:

Shaded areas poleward of 30°, elevations >1 km Green outlines denote final four sites based on science, engineering

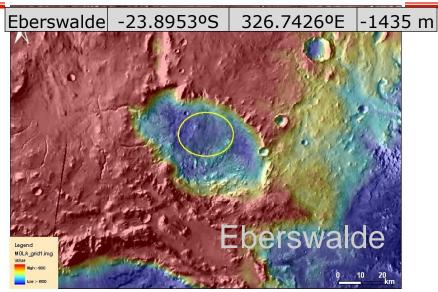
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Final Four MSL Landing Ellipses

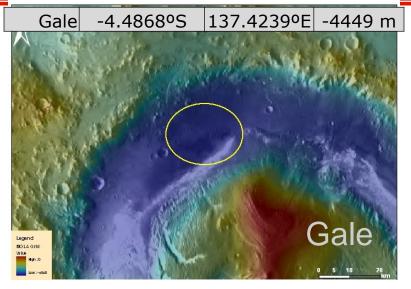


Eberswalde Crater: MOLA Gale Crater: MOLA

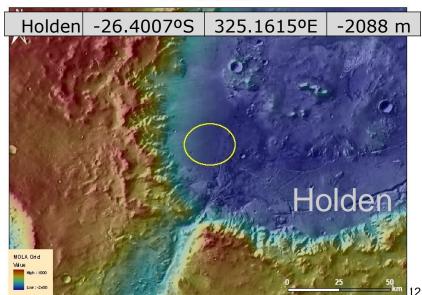


Mawrth Vallis Site 2: MOLA





Holden Crater: MOLA

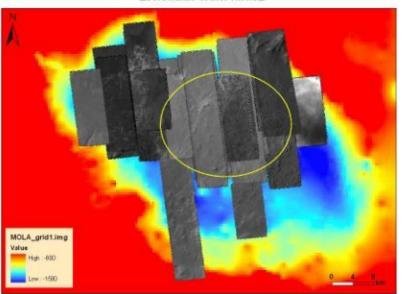


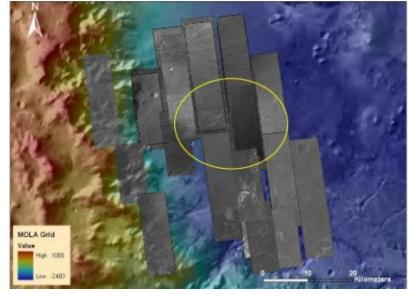
25 km by 20 km Ellipses E-W for 2011

HiRISE Image Coverage in Ellipse



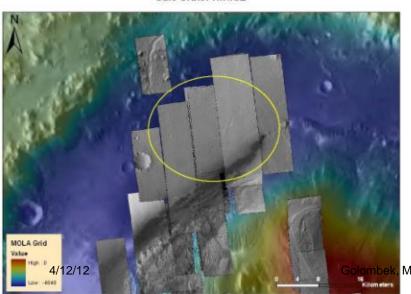




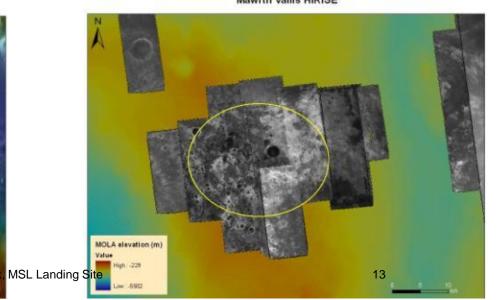


Holden Crater HIRISE

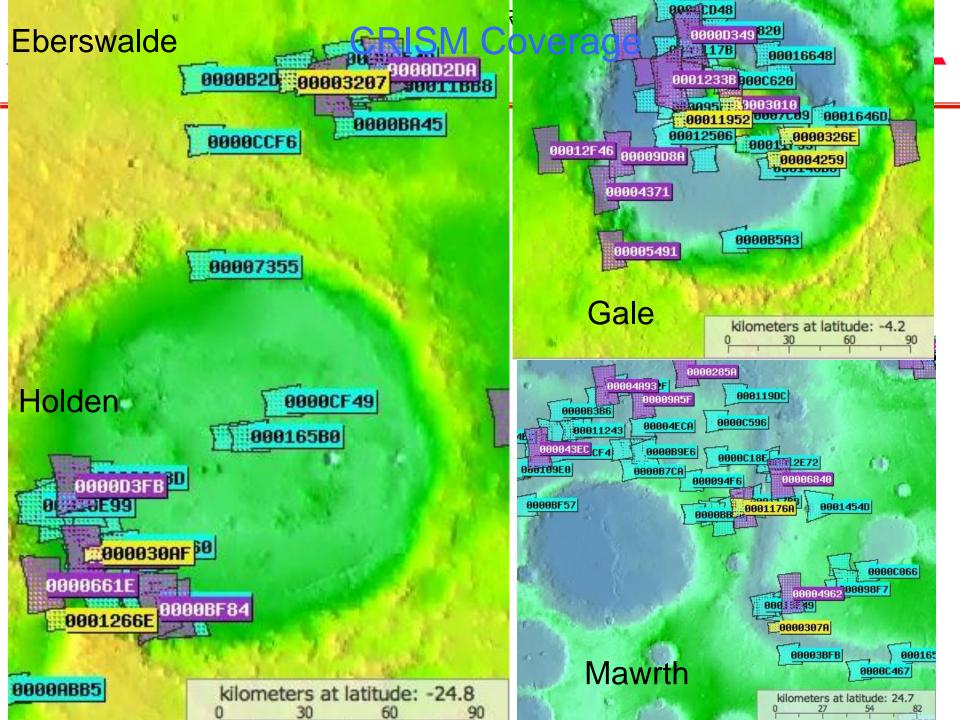
Gale Crater HIRISE



Mawrth Vallis HiRISE



Ξε





Gale Crater



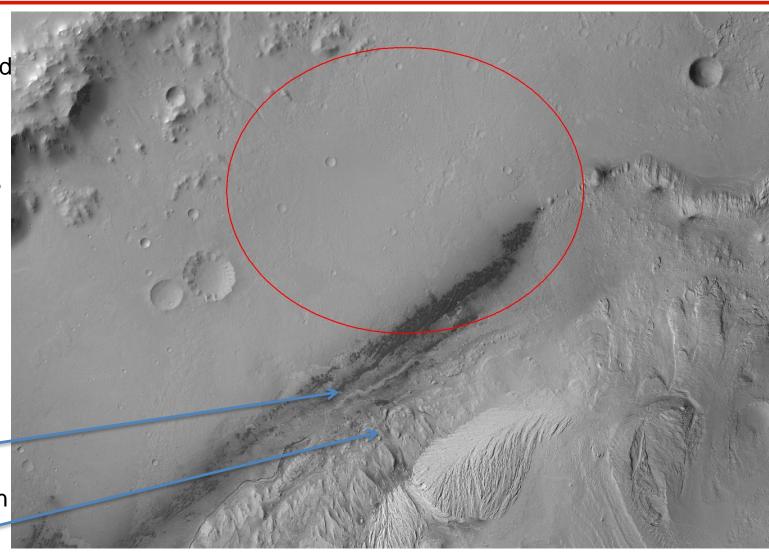
Land on Cratered Plains

Smooth, Flat, Cratered Plains

"Go To"

Sample Strata Here ____

Drive up Canyon Here





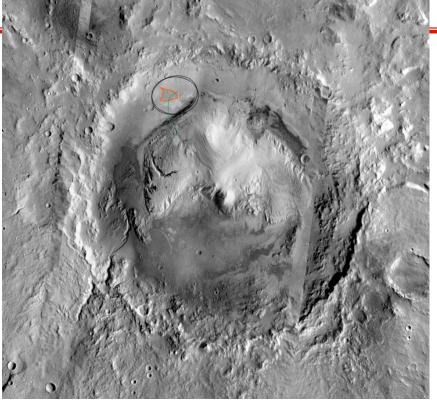
Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

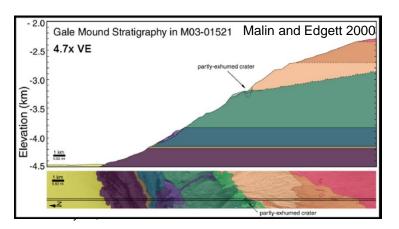
Gale Crater: K. Edgett, R. Anderson, J. Bell,

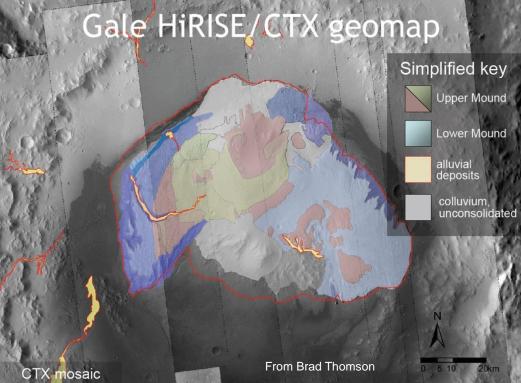


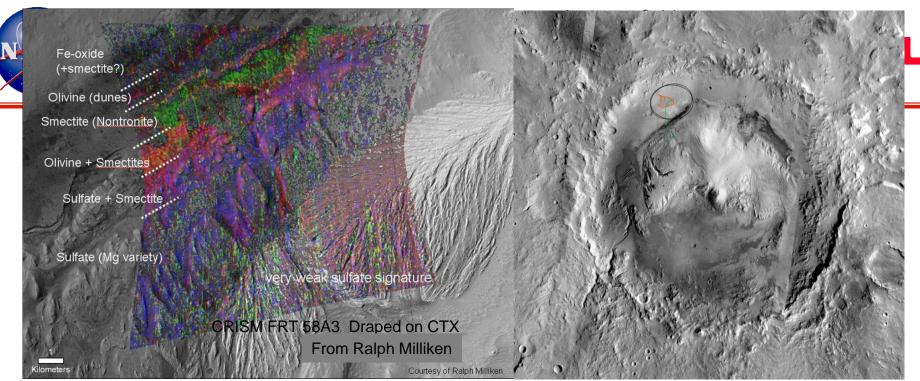
D. Sumner, R. Milliken

- High diversity of geologic materials with different compositions and depositional conditions
- This diversity is arranged in a stratigraphic context
- Stratigraphy records multiple early Mars environments in sequential order
- Gale is characteristic of a family of craters that were filled, buried, and exhumed, providing insights into an important martian process

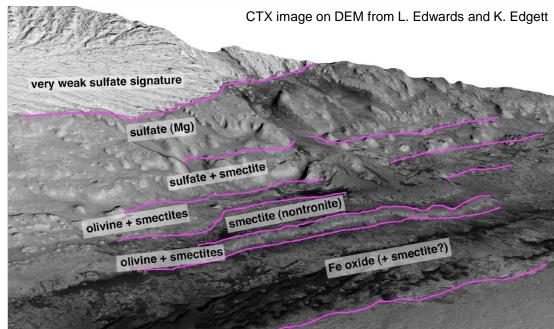








Gale Crater



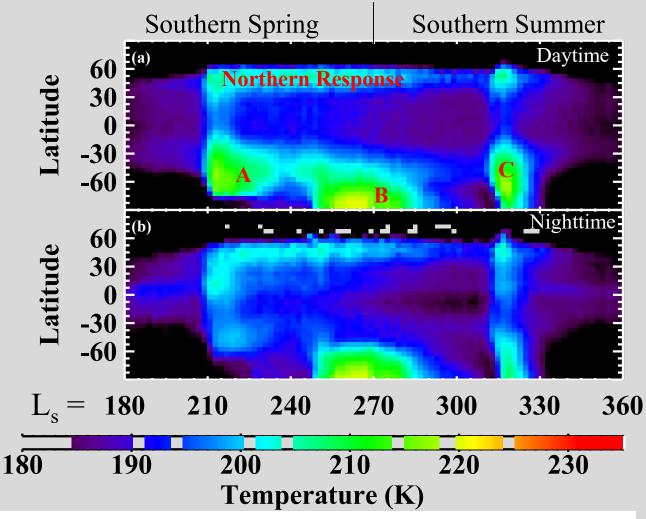


MRO Science Highlights



Three annually repeating periods of large dust events

Zonal Mean Temperature at 50 Pa (~25 km)



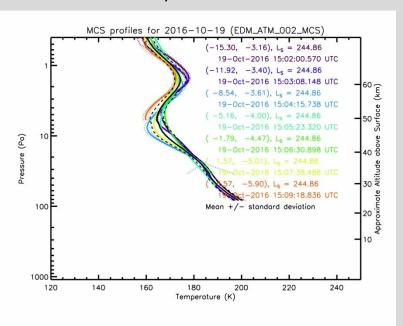
Reference: Kass, *et al.* (2016). Interannual similarity in the Martian atmosphere during the dust storm season, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 43, doi: 10.1002/2016GRL068978.

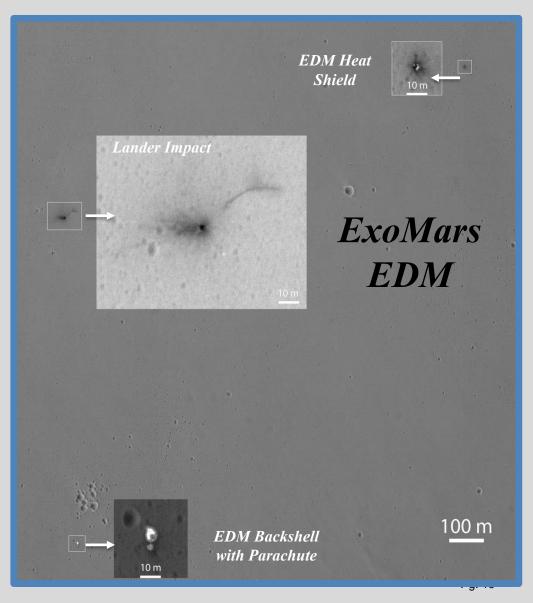


MRO Supports ExoMars EDM



- MCS Profiles the Atmosphere near EDM Entry;
- CTX finds the impact location post-landing;
- HiRISE resolves the EDM flight elements: Lander, Back-shell, Heat Shield.







MRO Science Highlights



Recent MARCI global weather map



March 7, 2016 ($L_S = 119.1$)



Mission Overview





LAUNCH

- Atlas V 541 vehicle
- Launch Readiness Date: July 2020
- Launch window: July/August 2020

CRUISE/APPROACH

- ~7 month cruise
- Arrive Feb 2021

ENTRY, DESCENT & LANDING

- MSL EDL system (+ Range Trigger and Terrain Relative Navigation): guided entry and powered descent/Sky Crane
- 16 x 14 km landing ellipse (range trigger baselined)
- Access to landing sites $\pm 30^{\circ}$ latitude, \leq -0.5 km elevation
 - Curiosity-class Rover

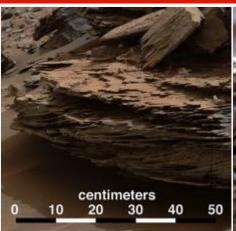
SURFACE MISSION

- 20 km traverse distance capability
 - Enhanced surface productivity
- Qualified to 1.5 Martian year lifetime
 - Seeking signs of past life
 - Returnable cache of samples
 - Prepare for human exploration of Mars



Mars 2020 Mission Objectives











GEOLOGIC EXPLORATION

- Explore an ancient environment on Mars
- Understand processes of formation and alteration

HABITABILITY AND BIOSIGNATURES

- Assess habitability of ancient environment
 - · Seek evidence of past life
 - Select sampling locations with high biosignature preservation potential

PREPARE A RETURNABLE CACHE

- Capability to collect ~40 samples and blanks, 20 in prime mission
- Include geologic diversity
- Deposit samples on the surface for possible return

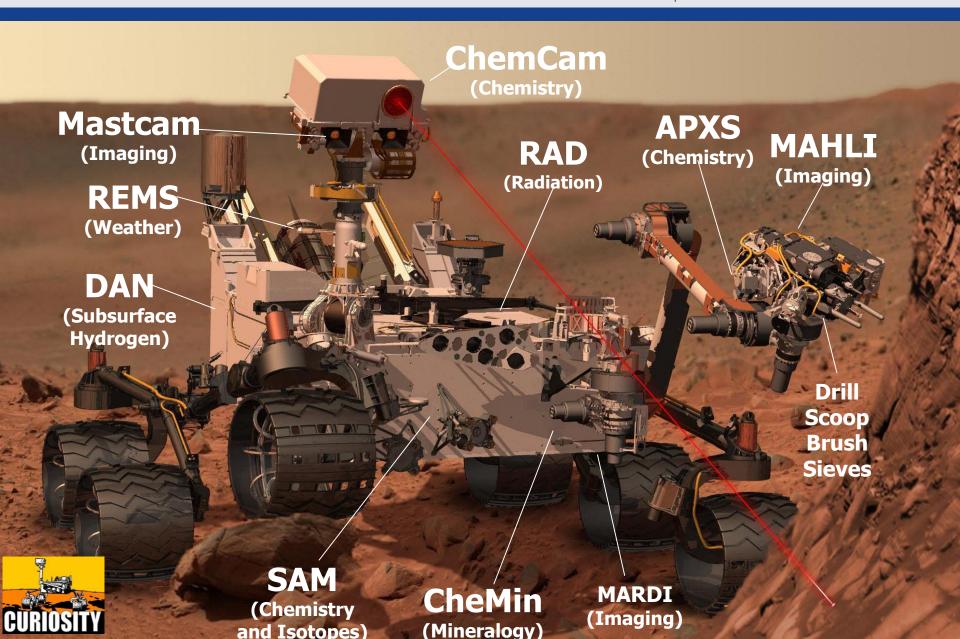
PREPARE FOR HUMAN EXPLORATION

- Measure temperature, humidity, wind, and dust environment
- Demonstrate In Situ Resource
 Utilization by converting atmospheric CO₂ to O₂

February 23, 2017 Pg. 22

Curiosity science payload





Mastcam-Z

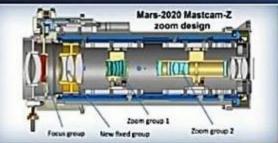
A Geologic, Stereoscopic, and Multispectral Investigation for the NASA Mars-2020 Rover Mission











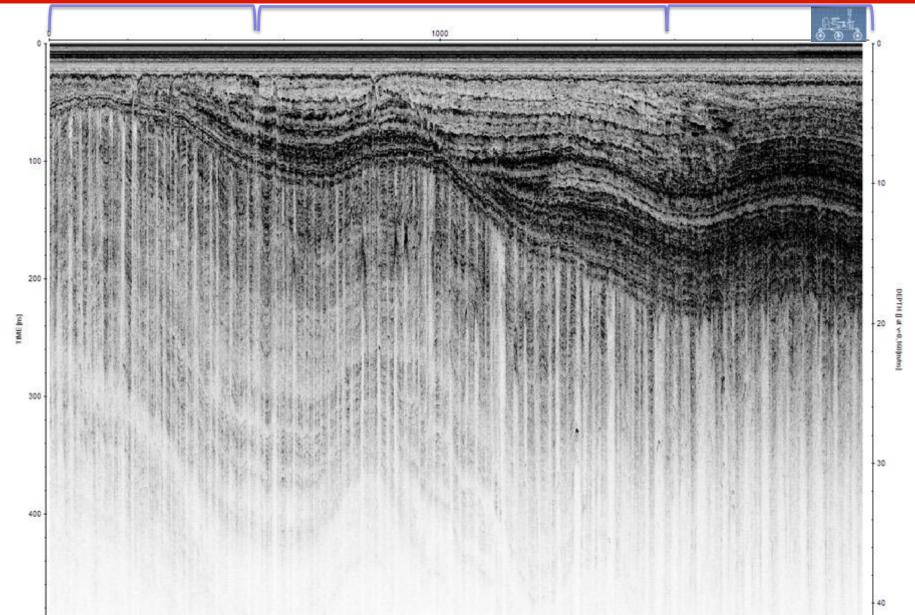
improved stereo zoom camera





RIMFAX: A View Beneath the Surface







Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter SuperCam:



Enhanced ChemCam

Before After

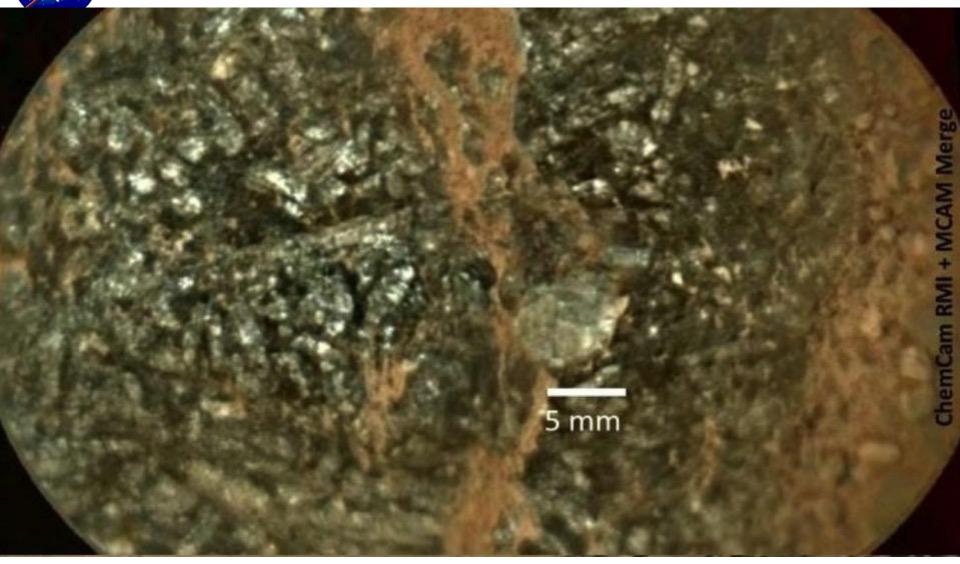
ChemCam Target: Beechey (Sol 19)

Power: 1 Gigawatt

5-spot raster, shots per spot: 50

National Aeronautics and Space Administration Jet Propulsion Laboratory California Institute of Technology Color RMI, LIBS, Raman, VISIR JPL





February 23, 2017 Pg. 27



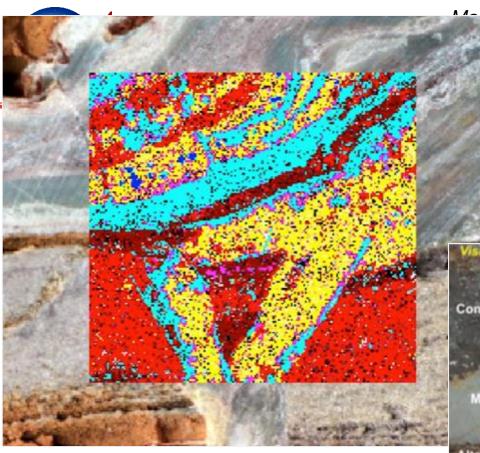






PIXL: Planetary Instrument For X-ray Lithochemistry

Conglomerate Chromite Alteration/Vein **Detrital Pyri** Fe,Mn,Ca-carbonate



micro x-ray fluorescence for elemental mapping with sub-mm resolution

National Aeronautics and Space Administration Jet Propulsion Laboratory California Institute of Technology

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

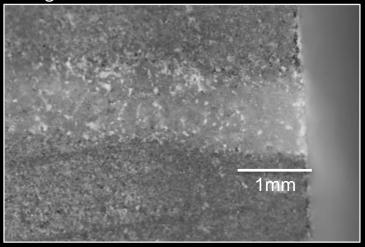
SHERLOC: Scanning Habitable Environments with Raman & Luminescence for Organics & Chemicals



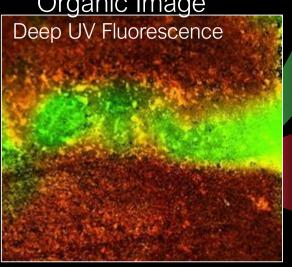


SHERLOC's view through WATSON

High Resolution Camera



Organic Image

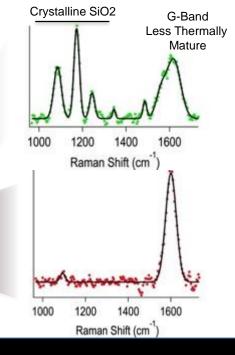


More Mature

Less Mature

Organic Maturity

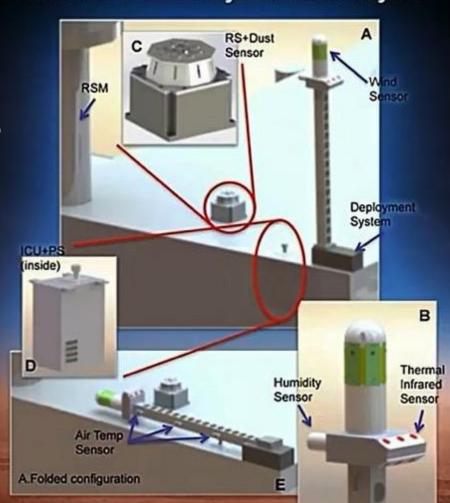
Organic & Mineral Analyzer Deep UV Raman



MEDA

Mars Environmental Dynamics Analyzer

temperature, humidity, wind, dust analyzer

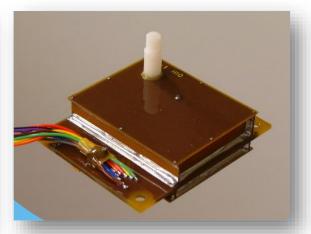


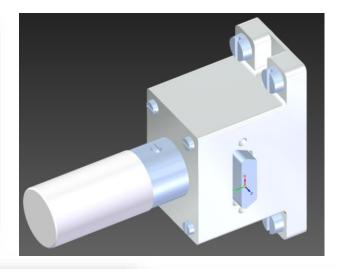


MEDA subsystems



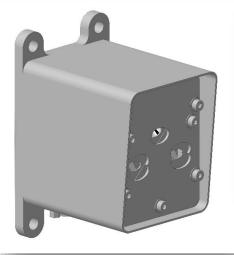


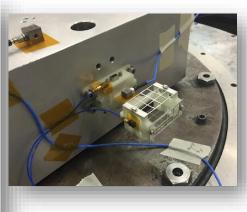




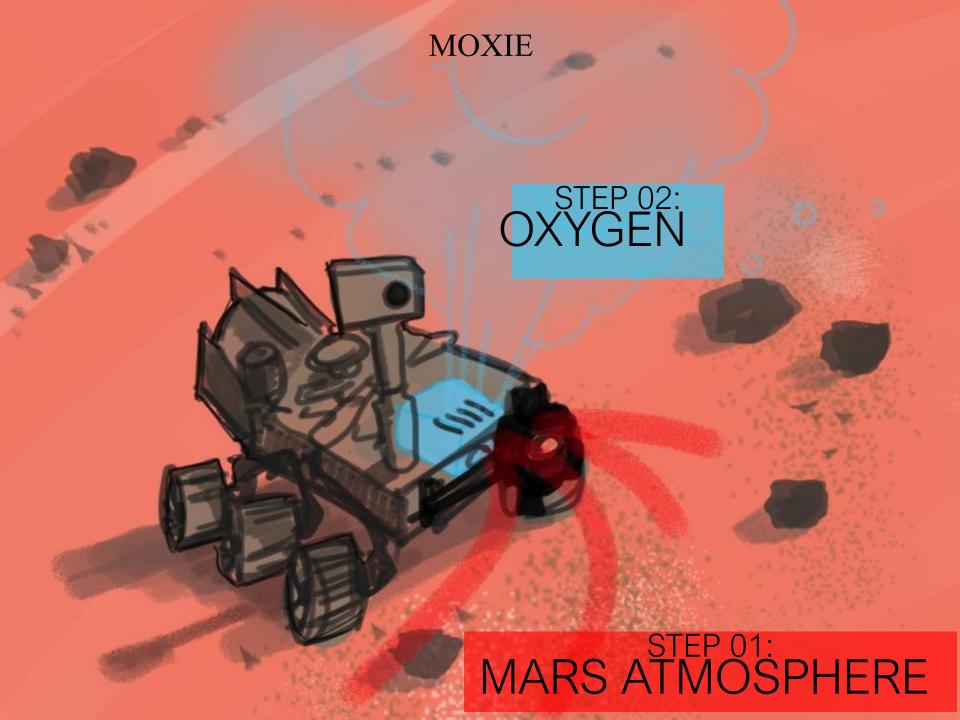








February 23, 2017 Pg. 33





Spacecraft Build Approach





Launch Vehicle

- KSC/Launch Services Program procurement

MMRTG

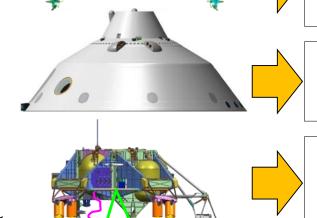
- DoE procurement to industry

Science & Exploration Technology Investigations

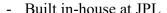
- Source per proposals via AO selection

MEDLI2

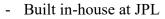
- NASA Centers (LaRC, ARC, and JPL)



- Built in-house at JPL
- Lowest cost and risk per make-buy study and industry RFIs
 - Built by Lockheed-Martin/Denver
- Procure as sole source—most cost effective



- Major industry subcontracts/components
- Rebuild in-house due to criticality of EDL and rover interface



- Major industry subcontracts/components
- Spanish contributed High Gain Antenna
- Rebuild in-house due to complexity of vehicle, residual hardware, criticality of EDL and rover interface, operations experience

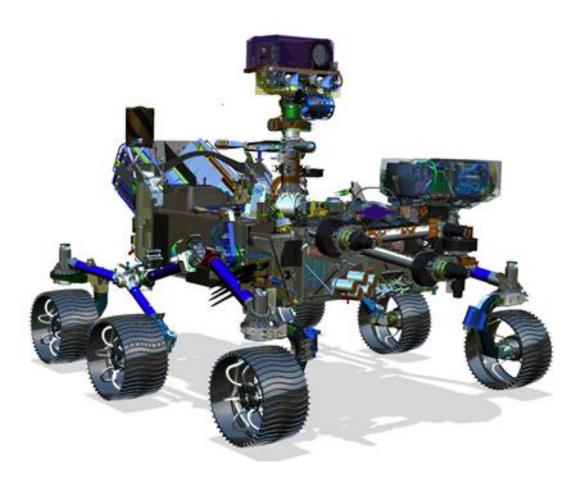


- Built by Lockheed-Martin/Denver
- Procure as sole source—most cost effective



Mars 2020 Rover Concept





High Heritage from MSL

- Avionics
- Power
- GN&C
- Telecom
- Thermal
- Mobility

Changed

- New Science Instrument Suite
- New Sampling Caching System
 - Modified Chassis
 - Modified Rover Harness
 - Modified Surface FSW
- Modified Rover Motor Controller
 - Modified Wheels



Mars 2020 Mission Objectives



■ Conduct Rigorous *In Situ* Science

- **A.** <u>Geologic Context and History</u> Carry out an integrated set of context, contact, and spatially-coordinated measurements to characterize the geology of the landing site
- **B.** <u>In Situ Astrobiology</u> Using the geologic context as a foundation, find and characterize **ancient** habitable environments, identify rocks with the highest chance of preserving **signs** of **ancient** Martian life if it were present, and within those environments, seek the signs of life

Enable the Future

- C. <u>Sample Return</u> Assemble rigorously documented and returnable cached samples for possible return to Earth
- **D.** <u>Human Exploration</u> Facilitate future human exploration by making significant progress towards filling major strategic knowledge gaps and...

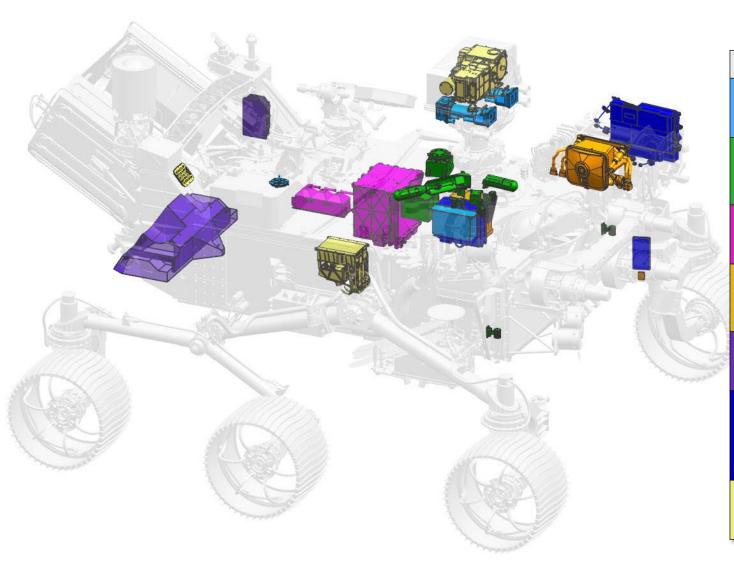
Technology ...demonstrate technology required for future Mars exploration

■ Execute Within Current Financial Realities

 Utilize MSL-heritage design and a moderate instrument suite to stay within the resource constraints specified by NASA

Mars 2020 Payload Family Picture





Instrument Key

Mastcam-Z

Stereo Imager

MEDA

Mars Environmental Measurement

MOXIE

In-Situ Oxygen Production

PIXL

Microfocus X-ray fluorescence spectrometer

RIMFAX

Ground Penetrating Radar

SHERLOC

Fluorescence and Raman spectrometer and Visible context imaging

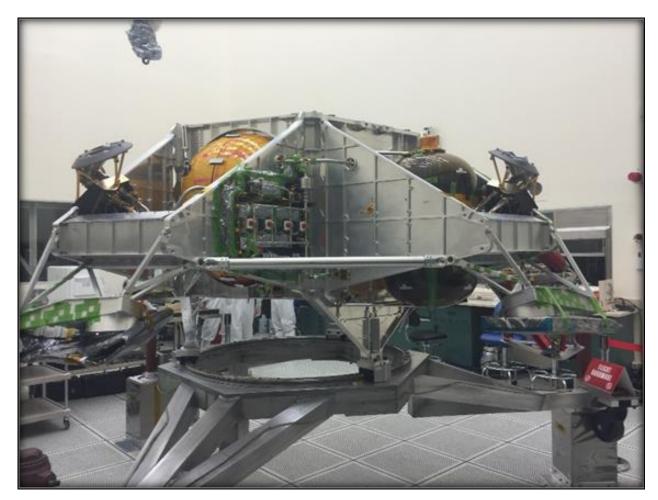
SuperCam

LIBS and Raman





Cruise / EDL Systems – In Assembly







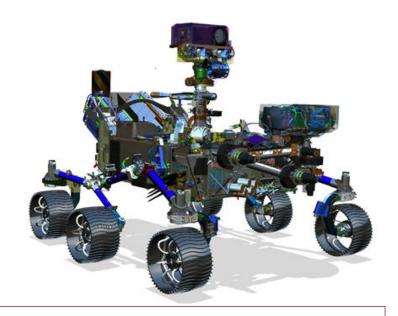


Project Overview



Salient Features

- Category: 1
- Risk Class: A-tailored
- Directed, JPL in-house implementation
 - *High heritage MSL design*
- Modifications only as necessary to accommodate new payload and Sampling / Caching System (SCS)
 - Planetary Protection Category V Restricted Earth
 Return per Level 1 Requirements



Science

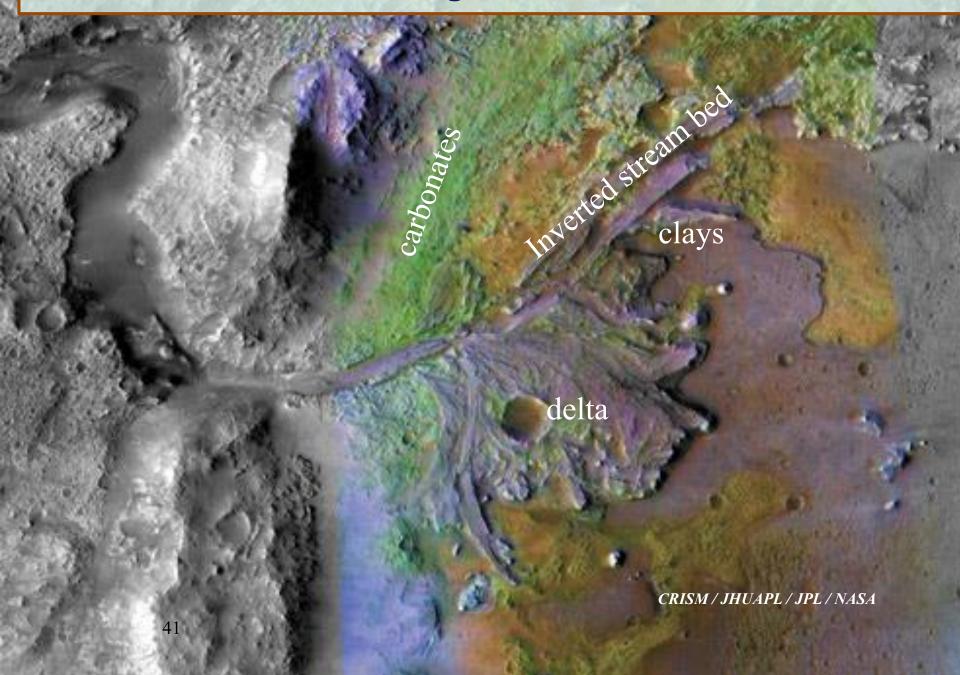
- Assess past habitability of an astrobiologically relevant ancient environment on Mars
- Assess biosignature preservation potential with the environment and search for biosignatures
 - Assemble cached samples for possible future return to Earth

Technology

Advance technologies with applications to future human and robotic explorations objectives

February 23, 2017

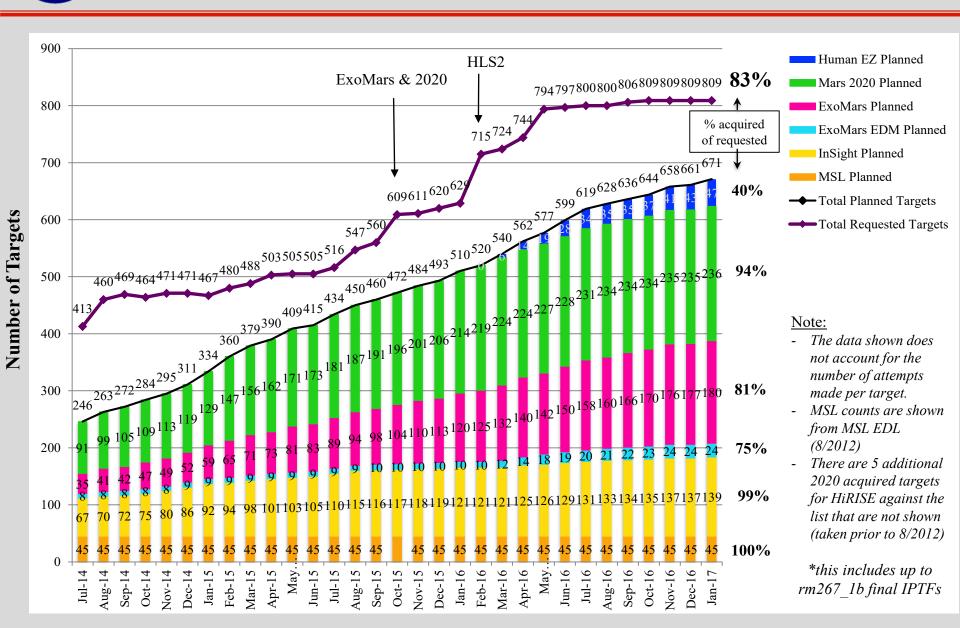
MRO & Landing Sites: Jezero Crater





Progress on Landing Sites







MRO: More to Come!



MRO continues to operate nominally in its dualpurpose mission of scientific observation and programmatic support

- MRO is working to ensure spacecraft operability through 2023 (2020 Rover Prime Mission)
 - All-Stellar Mode being developed to preserve IMU lifetime
 - Eclipse power management being instituted to extend battery life
 - Onboard fuel adequate for nominal operations and critical event support (2018 InSight, 2020 Rovers)
 - Landing site reconnaissance for InSight, 2020 Mars & ExoMars rovers continues
 - Preparing to support EDL and surface relay for InSight and Red
 Dragon Continuing relay support for MER and MSL
- Exciting EM4 mission is in progress with all instruments operating
 - 1 of 3 CRISM coolers continuing to yield good data in bimonthly cold cycles
 - HiRISE detector aging mitigated by warm-ups
 - MCS, MARCI, CTX, SHARAD show no signs of aging



Earth (and Moon) as seen by MRO on Nov 20th from Mars orbit. Acquired at a range of 205 million km (~200 km/pixel)

February 23, 2017 Pg. 43





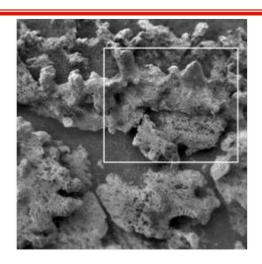
JEZERO

- Deltaic/lacustrine deposition with Hesperian lava flow and hydrous alteration
 - Evidence for hydrous minerals from CRISM, including carbonates



NE SYRTIS

- Extremely ancient igneous, hydrothermal, and sedimentary environments
- High mineralogic diversity with phyllosilicates, sulfates, carbonates, olivine
 - Serpentinization and subsurface habitability?

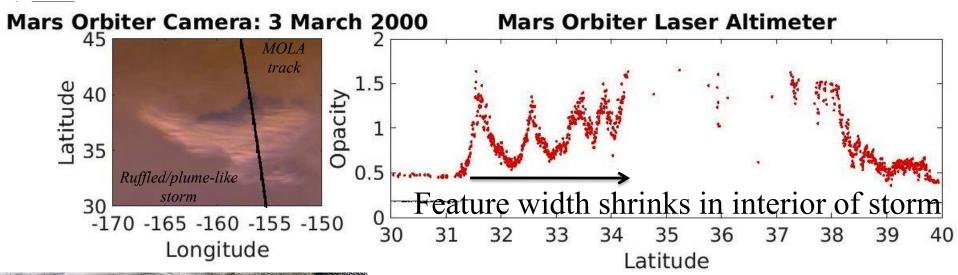


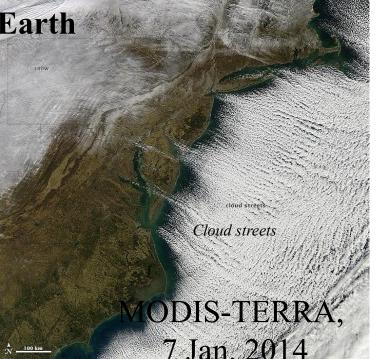
COLUMBIA HILLS

- Carbonate, sulfate, and silica-rich outcrops of possible hydrothermal origin and Hesperian lava flow
- Potential biosignatures identified
- Previously explored by MER

February 23, 2017 Pg. 44

Structure of One Major Type of Martian Dust Storm Suggests They Are Driven by Strong Winds Behind Cold Fronts





Dust storms on Mars have three major types of cloud-top structures in visible imagery. One type (ruffled/plume-like) is commonly observed in a very smooth area with a dusty surface in Mars's northern plains. Using observations from multiple types of instruments on MGS and MRO, it was found that the elongated linear features in these storms strongly resemble cloud streets in the Earth's atmosphere, particularly the type known as "wide, mixed layer rolls." On Earth, these form over bodies of water after the passage of cold fronts. The storms on Mars likely have a similar dynamical origin, with the dusty Martian surface acting like a body of water.

For more details, see: N.G. Heavens (2017), Textured Dust Storm Activity in NE Amazonis–SW Arcadia, Mars: Phenomenology and Dynamical Interpretation, accepted by *J. Atmos. Sci.*

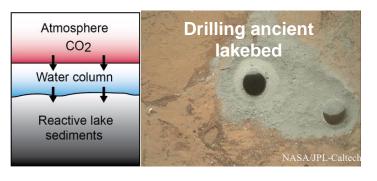


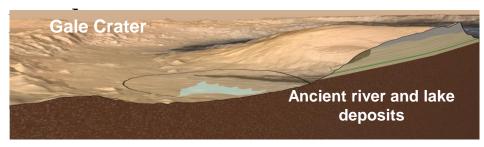


Curiosity: Little CO₂ in Ancient Mars Atmosphere

Examining minerals in mudstones formed at the bottom of a lake three and half billion years ago on Mars deepens the 'faint young Sun'

- Satellites have spent decades looking for carbonate minerals on Mars the remnants of a thick carbon dioxide rich atmosphere thought to have helped keep the planet warmer early in its history than today, despite a dimmer Sun.
- Carbonate minerals are not as common as expected, but may be buried deep within the crust or covered in dust, limiting visibility from space.





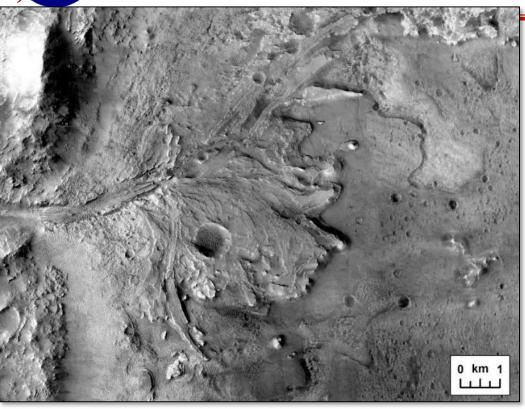
- The Mars Science Laboratory (MSL) *Curiosity* Rover sampled ancient lake sediments in Gale Crater containing basaltic minerals that should have reacted to form carbonates if a thick carbon dioxide atmosphere were present. CheMin, an X-ray diffraction instrument on MSL that detects minerals, has not found any carbonates. This limits carbon dioxide to tens to hundreds of times lower than levels required by some Mars climate models in which lakes and rivers can form and flow on the surface without freezing.
- Other ways to keep ancient Mars warm enough to explain evidence of river networks and lakes widespread across the planet in older terrains are needed.

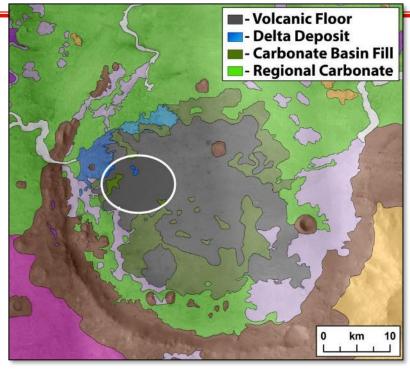
Bristow et al. 2017- PNAS



Jezero Crater







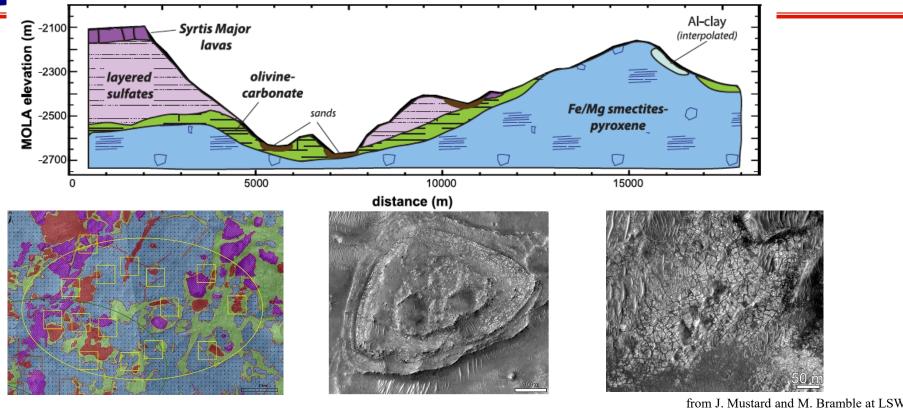
from T. Goudge presentation at LSW3

Positives: Oldest crater lake site (Noachian), with well-defined fine-grained deltaic facies attractive for biosignature investigation. Large, geologically diverse headwaters region. Carbonate bearing unit that may preserve record of ancient climate. Deep open-basin lake.



NE Syrtis





Positives: Lithologic diversity spanning long period of early Mars. Clear, readily accessible stratigraphy within the ellipse. Isidis(?) megabreccia, phyllosilicates, abundant

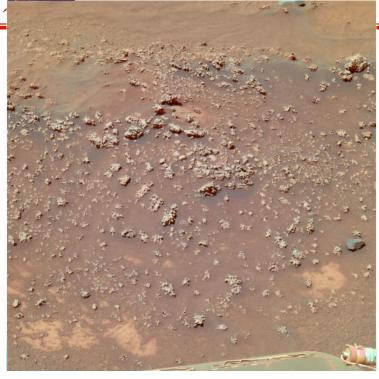
carbonates in stratigraphy (subsurface aquifer?, serpentinizing system?).

Negatives: In-ellipse mafic unit may not be volcanic. In-place Syrtris Major lavas probably too distant from ellipse to reach.



Columbia Hills







from presentations by S. Ruff and R. Arvidson at LSW3

Positives: Digitate silica structures possibly from ancient hot spring may be potentially habitable environment with high preservation potential. Diverse igneous suite. Highly rated by RSSB.

Negatives: Origin/age of key silica deposit is disputed. Environment is dusty, impeding instrument performance. Site has already been investigated with a capable rover, making it less clear what original contributions Mars 2020 can make in-situ.



Closing on the Final Landing Site List

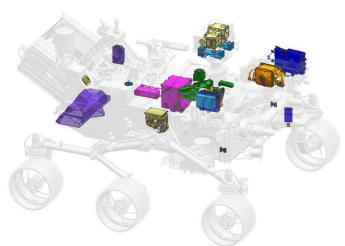


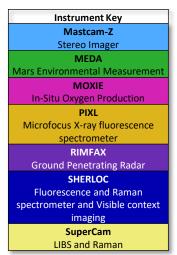
- 1. Project Engineering and Science will continue to work closely together to assess any operational challenges at the highly rated sites.
- 2. The Mars 2020 PSG and science team will critically assess the pros, cons, uncertainties and risks of the highly rated sites. We will work to develop a science plan at each site (including evaluation of specific regions of interest), and what could be accomplished both in-situ and in terms of cached samples.
- 3. For Columbia Hills, further assessment of the silica target's origin is being undertaken, as will evaluation of any challenges for its study/collection by the rover. The Mars 2020 PSG will consider how and to what extent the rover's instrument suite can advance scientific knowledge data this previously visited site.



Science Instruments







Full complement of instruments is still under development, with no reduction in capabilities

Five of seven instruments have had their Critical Design Review (only MEDA and PIXL remain)

Some Updates:

- 1) MEDA schedule is tight
- 2) Good progress is being made resolving SHERLOC (laser) and PIXL (x-ray tube) technical challenges



Sampling and Caching System (SCS)



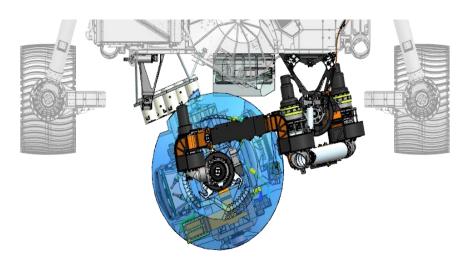
The very complex robotic SCS passed its subsystem CDR earlier this year

Carries ~40 sample tubes (31 + science/engineering spares)

Carries 6 witness tubes (in the 40) from which to acquire round-trip contamination knowledge - witness tube design is currently under development

Contamination requirements remain unchanged and good progress is being made in achieving them (e.g., 10 ppb TOC baseline, 40 ppb threshold)



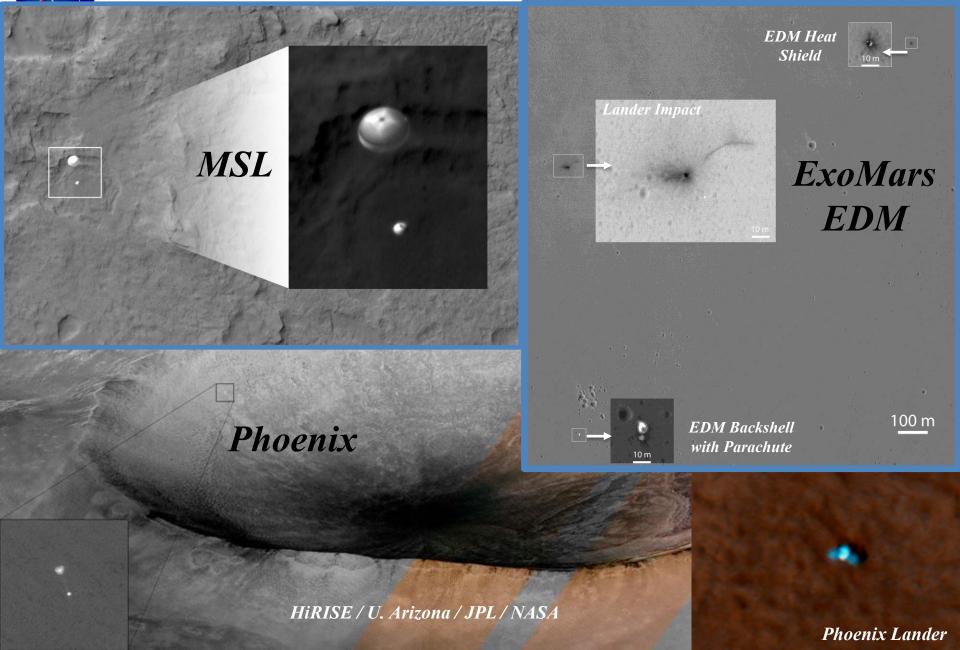




Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter

MARS Program Support by MRO







Other Ongoing and Future missions



- Indian space agency MOM
- Red Dragon ~ 2020
- Chinese program

February 23, 2017 Pg. 54

11 Years in Orbit

~50,000 orbits

300 Tb of Science Data Returned

~200 kg of
Usuable Fuel
still in the Tank

7 Science
Investigations
Still Returning
Data

More
Discoveries
Sure to Come!

Mars
Reconnaissance
Orbiter

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Government sponsorship acknowledged.





Backup

February 23, 2017 Pg. 56

MRO: Continuing Discoveries at Mars

Presentation to MEPAG February 23, 2017

CL#17-0802









HiRISE



UHF





SHARAD

CRISM

MCS